



Fiscal and Facilities Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Committee – January 23, 2012

Committee members attending: Brett McFadden, Rick Mullikin, Helen Bellonzi, Murry Schekman, Rich Puente, Jack Carroll, Danny Zumaran, Sylvia Mendez, Elaine Legorreta, Jim Abendschan, Jenny Sarmiento, Sharon Gray, Bill Beecher, Andy Hartman

Members absent: Francisco Rodriguez, Brian Saxton, Michael Jones, Rhea DeHart, Kevin Jeffery

Visitors: Leslie DeRose, Board President

Brett McFadden asked for introductions from committee members and announced the date change to February 27 for the next meeting due to district holidays.

He provided an update on the community survey presented to the board in December. Godbe Research polled just under 500 voters on their support for a school bond. Findings showed that a majority of voters, over 64%, would support a bond in June. Support for a November election was 67%. Safety, abatement, maintenance, and instructional issues registered high with voters.

The Board will hear a draft presentation of the Facilities Master Plan at a special meeting on February 1. If the vote goes to the polls in June, the County Elections office needs to know by March 7; with a November election, the County offices need to know by Aug. 1.

After board review, Brett would like the Advisory Committee to review the plan, keeping in mind a picture of what the district would look like in 10 years without a bond.

Brett explained that we have begun to talk with various community members and share ideas. The needs analysis is coming in at approximately \$200 million dollars' worth of improvements but we may need to assess and recalculate depending on areas of focus. Pots of money are available from state AB and seismic retrofit which can be used for the state match of bond funds.

Elaine Legorreta feels that roof replacement costs in the proposal are too low. Rick Mullikin said a section in the back of the proposal explains varying costs which may include soft costs and/or escalated pricing. Higher construction and materials costs could be due to the somewhat isolated geographical

location of the Monterey Bay area. A question was asked about Measure J bond which is now complete. The tax rate for voters could show additional taxes or be added into the existing Measure J rate.

Brett gave an update on the governor's proposed budget. The governor must propose the budget by January 10 although the district plans its budget a year in advance. Brett explained that we use the governor's proposal for the March 15 lay-off notices and the 2nd Interim Budget Report previous to the May Revise.

Historically the budget was cut by 16% in 08-09 with a direct cut to Prop 98. The governor needs to pass a temporary tax bill in order for his budget proposal to work. Because the temporary tax bill doesn't come up until November, we need to develop two budget scenarios, one if the tax passes, and one if it doesn't.

The governor is proposing elimination of home-to-school transportation. In December part of the "trigger" was pulled which was \$1.5 million taking \$400,000 off the revenue limit and would have affected half of our transportation budget however we used our reserves to compensate for this. If the tax bill doesn't pass, the governor would make a permanent cut of \$2.6 million, a potential \$145 reduction in ADA. Our district covers a large geographic area with a big percentage of our students needing home-to-school transportation. Many district families live in labor camps and have no car which would adversely affect ADA.

The common message from the COE is to plan for the worst, set aside \$370 ADA and do not implement transitional kindergarten. Brett hopes we can fight the cuts along with pressure from other school districts.

Brett said we should identify what savings we have and Leslie DeRose says we need to have alternative funding sources. She asked for progress reports to the board between major interim reports to help with the decision-making process. Bill Beecher says 95% of the budget is wages and benefits which are targets for cuts.

Brett advised to stay the course and form a sub-committee to identify recommendations to the board. Bill Beecher, Jim Abenshand, Sharon Gray, Rich Puente and Brett will make up the sub-committee. His desire is to implement a transparent budget process at the district and put forth a core set of values for the board to weigh options.